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NEWS RELEASE

TO: Area Media Outlets

FROM: Joel Strasz

Public Health Services Manager

DATE: October 28, 2009

RE: UPDATED SCHEDULE FOR BAY COUNTY H1N1 VACCINATION CLINICS

RUN: Immediate Release

Bay County Health Department will hold an H1N1 Influenza vaccination clinic Friday, October 30, 2009, from 1p.m. to 4p.m., at the St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish Center located at 1503 Kosciusko Avenue in Bay City. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHANGE IN VENUE FROM PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

A <u>second</u> clinic will be held at the Bay County Community Center on Saturday, October, 31, 2009, from 9:00a.m. to 12:00p.m. The Bay County Community Center is located at 800 John F. Kennedy Drive in Bay City.

Only Nasal FluMist vaccines (nasal spray) will be distributed at these clinics. The Nasal FluMist vaccine is composed of a weakened live virus and is only recommended for healthy people in a specific age group. The FluMist vaccine is not recommended for pregnant women, anyone with a long-term health problems or children with asthma.

Bay County Health Department is **prioritizing** H1N1 Nasal FluMist vaccinations for individuals recommended to receive it, as follows:

- Healthy persons ages 2 to 24
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than six months
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel that will be in contact with high-risk groups

No appointments are necessary and there is no cost for the H1N1 vaccine, but residents are asked to bring identification and proof of insurance as some administrative charges may apply. All minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

As the vaccine becomes more and more available, a list of dates and locations will be posted on the Bay County Health Department's website at www.baycounty-mi.gov/health or by calling the Bay County Health Department's Health Information line at 895-4192. Residents are urged to check back often, as these dates and times may change based on the availability of vaccine.